

**NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**  
*Preservice Teacher Member of the Teacher Preparation Committee*

**Background and Expectations**

Purpose of appointing an excellent preservice science teacher leader

- To engage a preservice teacher of science in the work of an NSTA Standing Committee;
- To receive input from those directly affected by the preservice science teacher community;
- To better engage preservice and early career teachers of science in NSTA activities;
- To promote the professional development of preservice teachers of science and the appointed future teacher;
- To support the development of current and future NSTA student members in the leadership activities of NSTA affairs.

This appointment is for a two-year term of office with the term beginning at the time of the National Conference on Science Education. Appointments are made annually, resulting in there being two appointees on the committee at all times, with staggered terms.

Expectations of the appointed preservice teacher. The student will attend the National Conference on Science Education in the spring semester of the first and second year of his/her appointment. (For example, if appointed by the President in January 2010, the appointee will attend the National Conference in March – April 2010 and March – April 2011.) He or she will:

- Try to attend Area Conferences on Science Education held in the Fall of each of the two years of Committee membership *and* the National Conference on Science Education at the end of the appointed term;
- Participate in meetings and activities of the Teacher Preparation Committee (The Committee has one formal meeting at the National Conference each year. There are conference calls and e-mail on special topics.);
- Seek out and represent the concerns of other future science teachers and of NSTA student chapters and represent those concerns during Committee deliberations and in other communications with the Committee, with the Preservice Director, and with other officers and members of NSTA;
- Share information about NSTA and about the Committee with other preservice students and promote student chapters via the NSTA website and other media.

NSTA support. The appointee will receive one night's lodging to attend each of the national conference(s) she / he has agreed to attend. NSTA officers, staff, and members of the Teacher Preparation Committee will invite the appointee to participate in appropriate special events during the annual and regional conferences the individual may attend during her / his term. This will include being a platform guest at one of the general sessions held during at least one of the National Conferences that the appointee attends. Additionally, the nominee will be expected to both attend and present at the New Teacher/Preservice Teacher Meal Event. Some support may be available for attendance at a regional conference.

Selection criteria. The nominee selected will be a highly qualified prospective elementary, middle school, or high school teacher who shows promise of becoming an excellent teacher of science. The

nominee must agree to attend the National Conference on Science Education in the first year of appointment and to perform the other duties outlined in these documents. Nominations will be greatly strengthened by the presentation of plans indicating how the university and / or advisor will provide support for travel and / or *appropriate and reasonable* release-time from conventional responsibilities (such as student teaching). Candidates scheduled to graduate and receive a teaching license at the end of the first spring semester within the first year of the appointment are not eligible for nomination; however candidates expecting to graduate with a license at the end of the summer or fall semester within the first year of appointment are eligible for nomination.

Selection criteria rubric.

- Evidence the candidate understands and engages in effective science teaching (0-10)
- Evidence the candidate understands and is involved in professional development issues (0-10)
- Evidence the candidate is an effective leader in science education (0-10)
- Evidence the candidate has a rationale and plans for serving as a future teacher (0-10)
- Evidence of support from the home university and community (0-5)

Nomination and selection procedure. Nominations will be solicited annually via a number of outreach vehicles, including e-newsletters, internal “house ads”, and e-mail communications to our existing database of college faculty and administrators involved in preservice science teacher preparation during each academic year, allowing for staggered terms of appointment. Nominators will submit the completed nomination forms directly to the address on the nomination form.

Selection of the most qualified student appointee will be the responsibility of the selection subcommittee. The Teacher Preparation Committee Chair will then forward the name of the nominee to the NSTA President for official notification of the appointment.

Candidate selection sub-committee. The subcommittee will be composed of the committee Chair and from 2 to 6 other Teacher Preparation Committee members dependent upon the number of applications. The subcommittee will review the credentials of nominated candidates and identify the most qualified candidate. The Chair and at least two subcommittee members will also approve the candidate nomination form and the criteria to be used in the ensuing academic year. Recommendations for qualified candidate(s) will be forwarded to the NSTA President-Elect for final approval and notification of appointment.

Nomination & selection time-line.

- Solicitation of nominations will begin via a variety of outreach methods no later than September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- Deadline for receipt of nomination forms at NSTA headquarters will normally be the last Friday before Thanksgiving.
- The candidate selection process will normally begin at the NSTA December regional meeting, and the finalist will be selected by January 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The President-elect will be notified immediately following selection, and the candidate and nominator will be notified no later than February 5<sup>th</sup> to allow arrangements to be made for the upcoming national conference .

***Thank you for supporting this vital NSTA activity to enhance and encourage the development of future science teachers and science education leaders!***

## NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

*Pre-service Teacher Member of the NSTA Teacher Preparation Committee*

### **Information & Nomination Form**

*March 15, 2010 – March 31, 2012 Appointment*

The NSTA Board of Directors has approved the annual appointment of one exceptional pre-service teacher of science for a two-year term on the Teacher Preparation Committee. Nominees must be students members of NSTA when nominated. Purposes for this appointment include:

- To receive input from the pre-service science teacher community and NSTA student chapters;
- To promote the professional development of pre-service teachers and the appointed pre-service teacher;

The nomination will be a highly competitive honor for pre-service nominees. For the student selected, the appointment will provide opportunity for early professional growth as a science teacher. The NSTA Division Director, Preservice Teacher Preparation and the NSTA staff liaison will identify the appointed student's responsibilities.

*Nomination packets* should include:

- The completed nomination form.
- Candidate's resume. (Maximum length: 1 page with 12 pt font.)
- A university transcript.
- A letter from a cooperating teacher or mentor detailing the candidate's teaching experience or practicum with students (Maximum length: 1.5 pages. Font size is the writer's decision.) The letter should comment, when possible, on the student's understanding and implementation of effective science teaching and his/her potential to become an outstanding science teacher. The letter is to be submitted in a sealed envelope, and must be signed by the teacher or mentor and submitted with the packet by the nominator.
- A letter from the candidate addressing issues relevant to the selection criteria rubric. (Maximum length: 2 pages with 12 pt font)
- A nomination letter from the nominating NSTA member (Maximum length: 2 pages with 12 pt font). Please note that letters that include how the university and/or advisor will provide support for travel and/or appropriate and reasonable release-time from conventional responsibilities (such as student teaching) will enhance the strength of a candidate's nomination credentials.

Any active NSTA member may submit nominations for the 2010-2012 appointment on the attached form (page 2). Nominators should submit completed nomination forms and all accompanying materials by November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Materials should be addressed to: NSTA Pre-service Teacher Nomination, Attn.: Membership and Chapter Relations, National Science Teachers Association, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201-3000.

**Questions?** Contact NSTA Chapter Relations at (800) 722-6782, ext. 370 or e-mail [chapters@nsta.org](mailto:chapters@nsta.org).

**NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**  
*Pre-service Teacher Member of the Teacher Preparation Committee*

**Nomination Form**

March 15, 2010 – March 31, 2012 Appointment

Name of nominee:

NSTA Students Membership number:

Nominee's school address:

Nominee's home address:

Nominee's school telephone:

Nominee's home telephone:

Nominee's e-address:

# of semesters (or equivalent) before probable graduation:

Probable dates (months & yr) of student teaching:

# of semester-length (or equivalent) Science Education courses completed:

# of semesters (or equivalent) in Teacher Preparation Program:

*Please Circle:* Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate Student

Nominee is preparing for (*Please Circle*): Elementary Middle Secondary

Science field of specialization (if any):

Nominator:

Nominator NSTA Membership ID Number:

Nominator Address

Nominators will submit completed nomination forms and all accompanying materials to: NSTA Pre-service Teacher Nomination, Attn.: Membership and Chapter Relations, National Science Teachers Association, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201-3000. **The nomination envelope must be received at this NSTA address no later than Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**